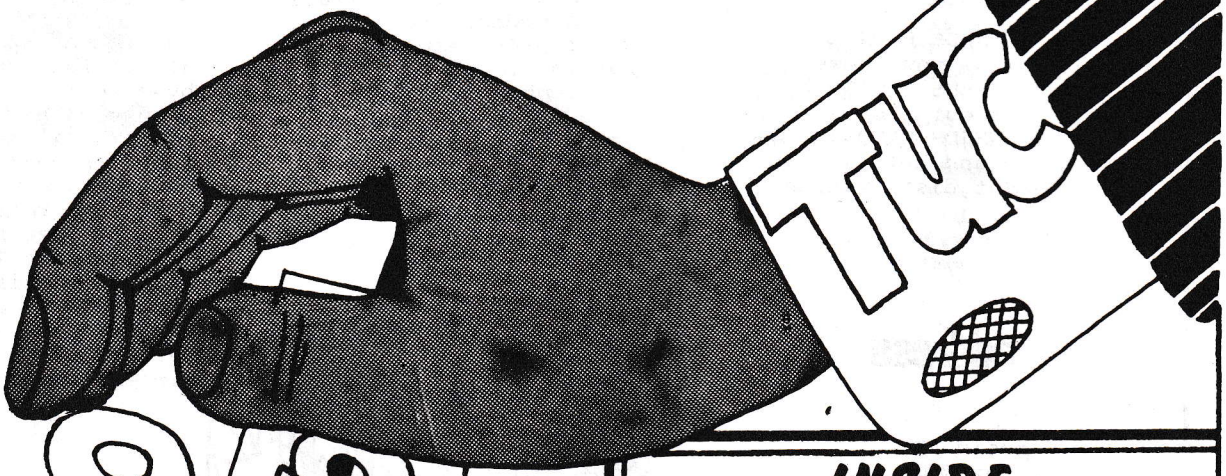
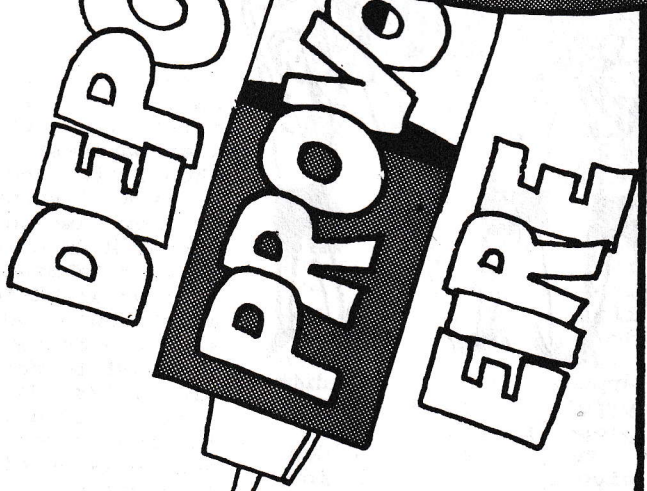
TAMESIDE EYE

LATE Armageddon FINAL

No13 April/May 1980 15p

Post Budget MONOCHROME EDITION



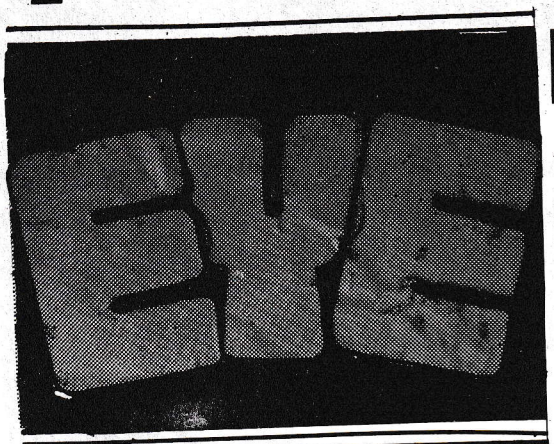


INSIDE

EYE LASHES OUT AT QUANGO

Reporter push over

PIRATE RADIO



EYE NEEDS EARS:
Send us your news
EYE NEEDS NOSES:
Sniff out stories
EYE NEEDS HANDS:
Come and help us with layout,distribution...

address

Tameside Eye
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Telephone:366 0382

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meetings

Phone above no.for details

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NEWS, INFORMATION,

The Manchester Rape crisis line is in operation from Tuesday March 4th. It will be open every Tues. and Sat. afternoon from 2pm-5pm and Thurs. evenings from 7-0pm. Sympathetic and confidential telephone counselling will be offered by women counsellors to any woman who has suffered rape, sexual assault or any unwelcome, unwanted or coerced sexual contact, no matter how or when it occured. If requested, we can give advice on practical issues such as medical treatment, V.D. or pregnancy tests or reporting to the police. The telephone number is 061-228-3602 and the postal address is PO Box 336 M/cr. M60 2BS.
Someone to talk to if you have suffered rape or sexual assault no matter when or how.

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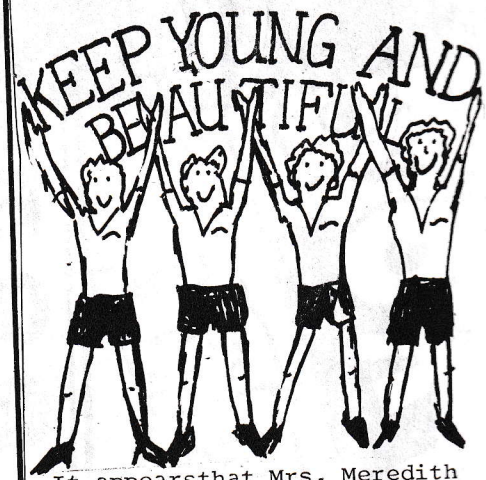

It appearsthat Mrs. Meredith proprietor of the Lakes Old Peoples home has finally taken the plunge and decided to give up her long-running battle with Tameside. The Lakes has just received outline planning permission for being turned into a Health and Beauty Centre. For several years Mrs, Meredith and her Manchester based lawyer Barry Cuttle have been battling through the courts and mounds of legal correspondence with Tameside over the conditions in her Home. An uneasy stalemate was arrived at, but now she is winding the home down ready for the new centre, which is certainly an advance on the Safari Park proposed 4 years ago !
Incidentally, she must also be sad now that one of her friends on the Dukinfield Bench, Mr. Pickup, ex Clerk to the Magistrates, has left.

So who was the sixth man in last issues free Enterprise Comp?. All is now revealed.
His name is Stephen Lea, he is a Grtr.Manchester County Councillor, and like his 5 friends is a leading light in the Tories. A few years ago he moved north from stock-broker belt Chalfont St. Giles, bucks, to stock-broker belt Charlesworth - where he lives at Hunters Gate, Woodseats Lane.
He recently failed to get back down Sth, when he lost heavily as the Tory candidate in the M/cr, central by-election.
Thanks to his directorships of Altec Investments (Computer consultants), and Mysotis Business Consultants he gains a 2½ star rating in the comp. In fact, perhaps that's why he's smiling ?
Still, mysotis made a net loss from '69-'73 of £410 and another loss of £10 in '75. Perhaps he ought to consult himself.

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Nothing was done about damp at Hattersley at the first liason committee between Manchester (who own the estate) and Tameside. It is well known that Mr. Wade of Tameside Environmental Health could be serving 'abatement notices' on several Hattersley houses which would end up with Tameside prosecuting Manchester in court to put the houses right. Mr. Wade has taken a lot of trouble to visit the houses for himself - yet now he is holding back. Apparently, it is not 'done' for one council to sue another. Meanwhile, Manchester claim to have an architects team working on it. What they are really worried about is the millions needed to make the houses fit to live in.
Rooms with 2 inches of fungus and mould growing out of the wall, enormous heating bills and chest complaints: would any of the architects who 'designed' Hattersley's houses be prepared to live in these conditions?-

★ ☆ ★

GOSSIP, CONTACT EYE ON THE hot line

tel 366 0382

An intriguing little advert appeared in the Ripsnorter on Feb 15th, in the 'Houses to let col.'
'Modern three bedroomed furnished house, Hattersley, near Hyde, nice position, refs req. £30 p.week exclusive; write W85, Reporter.'
It appears that this house is to be found on Callington Drive Hattersley, and belongs to Harry Nuttall caretaker of Longendale Comp. school.
It was one of the much-trumpeted council house sales completed by Grantham and Co. before they lost last May's local elections.
All the propoganda on these sales has emphasised that they are for people to buy their own homes for living in. Yet here, already, someoneis on the make.
Eye understands that strictly speaking letting the house if it has been bought using a councilmortgage contravenes council regulations.
Meanwhile, the waiting lists grow longer and the shortage of houses like this for larger families gets worse.

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Try not to fall sick in Tameside. For our provision of hospital beds is third from worst in the country. There are 3.6 beds per 1,000 people living in the Borough. By comparison, Salford has 12.1 beds per 1,000.
(City Enquirer).

Wreckreation Committee are putting up allotment rents by 78% in 1981. According to the letter that has gone out this is to be in line with 'estimated inflation up to April 1981.' Funny, even the worst predictions of next year's inflationary leap are only around the 20% mark - modest by wreckreation standards.
What do they know that we dont?

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PEOPLE YOU CAN TRUST ARE YOUR SCHOOL TEACHERS, POLICEMEN AND POLICEWOMEN IN UNIFORM.

All cynics who feel that the interests of the community are at odds with those of big business must be relieved by a recent little publication put out by Greater Manchester police, paid for the 'National Mutual Life Association of Australasia Ltd.'
It is basically a cartoon strip aimed at making kids wary of malevolent strangers. Fair enough. But have National Mutual put it out for the good of their corporate sould(if they've got one) or what ?
Enthusiasm for National Mutual was somewhat dampened by one line on the back which reads : LIFE IS OUR BUSINESS' It is now apparently very profitable to spend cash preventing kids meeting strangers.
One a more amusing note, one caption is - to say the least ambiguous.

'EVIDENTLY OFF DUTY OR PLAIN CLOTHES COPPERS ARE NOT TO BE TRUSTED.'

It promises to be alively evening when TV personality and humorist Johnny Morris introduces concert items and acts as narrator at the Jubilee Hall, Dukinfield, on 11th April.
The occasion is a concert to be given by the Manchester Camerata Orchestra, with guitar soloist Michael Conn, which is being promited by Tameside Libraries and Arts Dept.
In addition to providing light relief and contributing to an enjoyable atmosphere, Johnny has a serious role as narrator in a novel work entitled 'Juanita the Spanish Lobster.'
Also contributing to the evenings entertainment will be a group of young people from Broadbent fold Primary school, Dukinfield, who will join the orchestra in a performance of Haydn's 'Toy Symphony'

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In these times of economic cut backs and general pulling in of the collective belt, its nice to know that not everyone is letting it get them down. In fact, two people have recently decided to celebrate the '80's by building their own swimming pools in their gardens. Planning permission for them was granted to R.A. Smith of Greenbank, Mottram Old Rd. Hyde and to Mr. and Mrs. Haughton, 2 Ashes Lane, Stalybridge.

HOT LINE

There was another round of Dept. of Transport charades recently, held in the peaceful surroundings of Ryecroft Hall, Audenshaw. Yet another Manchester outer ring Rd. consultation farce - this time asking for public opinion on which route would be best for the Daisy Nook-Denton section of the proposed motorway.

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NOWHERE, EITHER IN THE EXHIBITION OR ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE WAS THERE ANY REFERENCE TO WHETHER A MOTORWAY IS NEEDED IN THE FIRST PLACE!

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The bureaucrats argue in the form of Mr. J.S. Brunton of the North West Rd. Construction Unit, that we need to decide the route first and then hold a public meeting afterwards (in 1982 in fact!) to decide whether the motorway should be built.
The morotway, which seems certain to be built, will be started in 1984 and will cost £ 89 million at today's price!
Also present at the exhibition - uninvited - were members of Snipe residents Assoc, who are affiliated to the No Morr Campaign.

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They put the case for deciding on the motorway first, to all the visitors at the exhibtion.
Snipe Residents are not getting any help in their campaign against the motorway from their MP - in fact, the week of the exhibition saw Ken Marks MP use his column in the Reporter to make snide remarks about the Residents group, which were completely untrue

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For his part, Robert Sheldon MP is not getting involved he has simply 'acknowledged' their letters. They also insist that No-Morr is not a Chadderton based middle-class pressure group, and want moremembers now. Contact their Chairman, S. Dorman, 97 Brendon Drive, Audenshaw

YOUR CARING SHARING CO-OP

Rodney G. Aspray
Chief Executive Officer

free outing

Residents of Mossley have already experienced the care and attention lavished on them by their friendly Co-op.
When the Co-op opened a large supermarket in top Mossley they closed down a smaller branch in Micklehurst.
This affected many people especially people without transport such as the elderly and women with young children. Never mind, the Co-op provide a FREE bus once a week to top Mossley - what an outing!

biggest

It seems Droylsden residents are also to get a taste of this 'biggest is best' policy.

objections

There has been a running controversey in Droylsden about a proposed superstore on the site of the former Courtaulds building.
Hillards, who wanted to develop the site ammended their plans after objections from local residents and the Chamber of Trade.
As a result, Tameside M.B.C. approved the plans but the GMC stepped in and refused the plans on the grounds that Tameside, and Droylsden in particular, was adequately provided with food retail outlets.

closures

Lovers of Superstores need not despair, the Co-op have an ingenious answer - close a few food retail outlets and the GMC will then approve the building of a Superstore. The Co-op have confirmed that 5 stores in Droylsden will be closed, four of them in the next 10 weeks, the Co-op say, however, that these closures are purely for 'financial reasons' and have nothing to do with the Co-op's own plans for a superstore on the site.

opposition

Local residents met on the 11th March at Droylsden Labour club and strongly opposed the plans which were described as 'considerably worse for the environment than the Hillards proposals.'

WOMEN- YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW
One Day Conference, Sunday, 20th April, Stalybridge Teachers Centre, 9.30 a.m. 4.00 p.m.

Details from:-

Tameside Metropolitan Borough
Youth and Community Services
Education Offices
Town lane,
Dukinfield
Cheshire SK16 4BY

class conscious contraceptive

BANNED

Depo Provera is an injection consisting of a massive dose (150 mg) of a synthetic hormone called projesteron. It is manufactured in the United States by Upjohn where it has been banned, yet it is still widely used by U.S. funded population programmes in the third world.

SHORT

In Britain, the Committee on the Safety of Medicines has approved Depo Provera for short term use, but once injected into the body it can last from 3 - 9 months.

FREE

The Family Planning Assoc. believe that doctors should be free to prescribe this drug to women unable or unwilling to use other methods, 'mentally retarded and mentally ill women may be suitable.'
This is despite the fact that D.P. can produce sever depression. In 1977, in the London Hospital, Whitechapel, two thirds of the women given D.P. were black. So, if you are mentally retarded, promiscuous, working class or black you may be offered D.P.

RISKS

Side effects of Depo Provera are:
1. Increased risk of cancer of the cervix.
2. Can cause breast cancer in dogs.
3. Disruption of the menstrual cycle.
4. Long term unfertility and possible permanent sterility.
5. Weight gain, skin changes, hair loss, acne, migraines, severe depression, loss of orgasms and sex desire.
6. It is passed on in breast milk at the same level of concentration as is found in the mother's blood stream.

BRITAIN

The instances where D.P. may be used in Britain are ;
in conjunction with Rubella vaccine (german measles) where it is advisable not to become pregnant for three months.
This injection is usually given after delivery with little or no explanation.
Also, women whose husbands have had a vasectomy which takes three months to become effective.

CYSTS!

In Tameside D.P. is being offered along with Rubella vaccine after delivery.
One woman who was breast feeding a baby boy was given D.P. the day she was due to go home.
She was offered a contraceptive injection, when she queried this, an explanation as to what it was was given.
No mention was made of any side effects or that the drug was Depo Provera.
Since having D.P. after 3-4 weeks an ovarian cyst developed. A visit to the doctor gave the cause of this cyst as possibly D.P.

QUESTION

If you have not had German Measles and are pregnant, if this injection is offered after the birth of your baby do query it and demand to know more about it.
Ask about side-effects and if you are bothered about it at all - REFUSE. You can have Rubella vaccine by itself.

SUPPORT

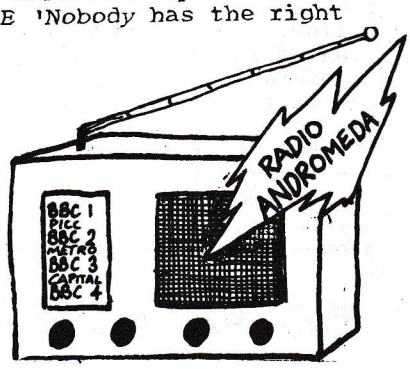
Campaign against Depo-Provera, 374 Gray's Inn Rd., London W.C.1.

PIRATE RADIO comes to TAMESIDE

PIRATE RADIO HIT TAMESIDE WHEN RADIO ANDROMEDA MADE ITS FIRST TEST BROADCAST FROM 'SOMEWHERE IN THE PENNINES'

If you had been fiddling with your receiver around Radio 4 VHF frequency at 2pm on Sunday 3rd April you may *havr been surprised to hear* not the plummey tones of the BBC establishment but the authentic accents of Tamesides's first pirate radio station. That was the test broadcast but Radio Andromeda will soon broadcast once a fortnight programmes of the kind of media that isn't getting enough airtime on the established stations intermixed with community information.

Andromeda will concentrate on album tracks with the emphasis on progressive, reggae, new wave and punk sounds. The station is non-profit making. It cannot broadcast for long in case it gets picked up by the fully automated tracking station at Swinton, fined up to £400 or a 3 month prison sentence.
An Andromeda spokesman told *EYE 'Nobody* has the right to tell people the area's not free' but reassured us that Andromeda had spent a lot of time finding an unused frequency so that its broadcasts wouldn't interfere with existing users.
He also told us that it is not only illegal to transmot unauthorised radio messages but also to listen to them!
EYE therefore STRONGLY advises you AGAINST sending messages to Radio Andromeda at 26 Brown St.Manchester.
Never let it be said that EYE encouraged people to listen to such illegal, exciting and important new developments as Radio Andromeda.
REMEMBER - do not tune to 94.6megahertz (next to Radio 4) VHF on 14th or 28th April at 2pm.
You have been warned !!



reporter pushover

On February 23rd the reporter carried an almost insignificant 6" column announcing the acqisition of the publishers of the Reporter, J. Andrew & Co. Ltd. by the mammoth United Newspapers. The Ripsnorter article briefly mentioned some of the journals and other publications owned by United Newspapers and said that there will be no change in printing or management of the group. In order to gain a clearer picture of the Reporters new "masters", Eye reserchers set off in hot pursuit of the Board of Directors of U/N. in order to asses the various business interests, contacts and other links of the group, here are our findings.

AN EYE investigation,

the report the reporter couldn't report.

Although Barnetsons capacity for business far outweighs any of his other directors it's worth a quick run through of the board along with their business credits. These are the men who will ultimately control the news as seen through the Reporters rose coloured glasses.

J. Andrew & Co. Ltd

United Newspapers history extends as far back as 1925 with one of its first conquests being the Yorkshire Post. Chairman of the group is Lord William Denholm Barnetson whois also chairman of the National Council for the Training of Journalists and of the Observer and Bradbury Agnew. He is also Director of The Hill Samuel group and the London Local board of the Bank of Scotland. Other directorships include The Press Association Provincial Newspapers. The Argus Press, Drayton Consolidates Trust, The British Electric Traction Co. Earls Court and Olympia The English National Opera (North). The Argus press is a sub member of the British Electric Traction Co. Ltd.

which is a sub company of United Newspapers, all the companys are members of The HIll Samuel Group. Lord Barnetson is also President of the Periodical Publishers Association and Vice President of the Publishers Assoc.

The acquisition of J.Andrews once approved by the Secretary of State for Industry will cost United Newspapers 421.925 ordinary shares plus about £390,000 cash. It is expected that this will yeild £150,000 to the pre-tax profits of U/N. in a full year. On this prediction it looks as if the deal will have financed itself in three years. Amongst U/Ns other "Interests" are included the printing of an annual 6 million xmas cards a year, which cater for the less expensive end of the market. They own shops, Paper Merchanting and have interests in Stationary and Mail Order Bookselling. They also own 5.29% of Trident TV and 13% of radio Hallam. Profits for the group in 1978 were £4.516.000 with 84% of profit coming from the multitude of northern weeklies which they control and sell through their own shops.

DIRECTOR.

D.B. Anderson

t.P. Watson

K.M. Whitworth

J.G.S. Linacre

W. Moeller

Sir K. Parkinson

E.A.Walker

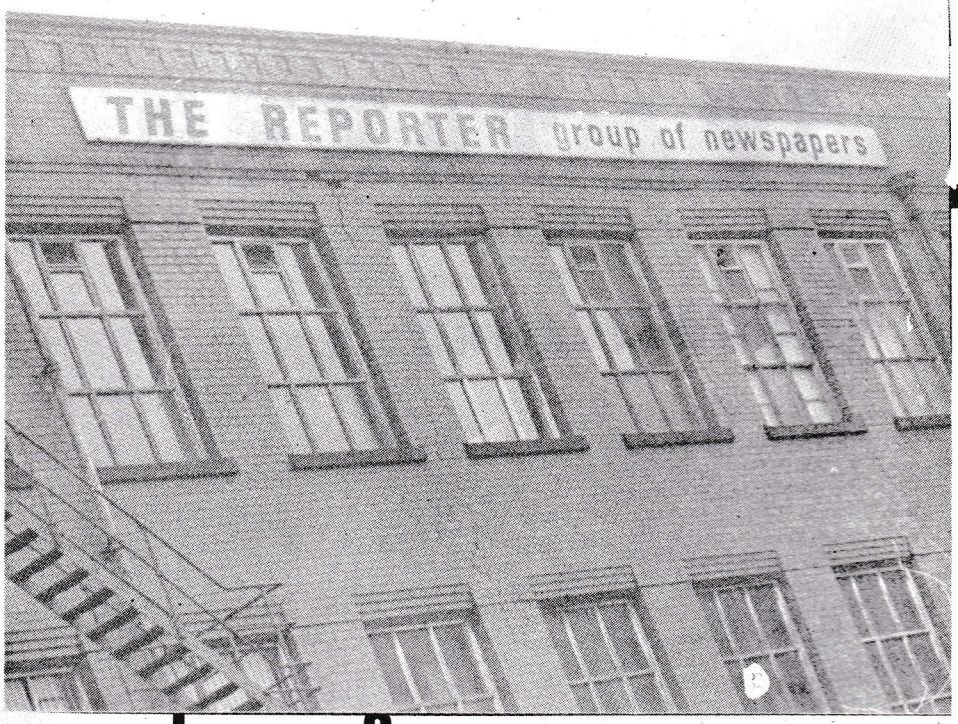
D.R.Stevens

P.L. Fleming

Sir J.A.B. Grotria

F.E. Hudson

E.G. Schofield



RTZ ● connections

no change ?

The Reporter maintains that printing will continue at the Whitelands Road Mill but Eye wonders whether or not there may be redundancies in the future as U/N are commited to a capital investment in Computer Typesetting and in Photo Polymer printing processes. The advent of this technology triggered the protracted strike at the Times last year, will we see Tamesiders going without their beloved Reporter? time will tell.

There is also the fearsome possibility of the Reporter comment becoming more overtly right winged than it is at present. No matter how much the management may stay the same it will be the Yorkshir Barons who will be pulling the strings, albeit from afar. A closer look at Lord Barnetson's directorial connections may provide a clue. He is Dep. Chairman if the Yorkshire Traction Co. ltd, an amalgum of many Yorkshire enterprises. Also on the board id the Rt. Hon. The Viscount of Culrose whose close relatives include Lord Peter Carrington MP. who just Happens to be on the Board of Directors of Rio Tinto Zinc the now parent company of Sterling Chemicals. Would it be unreasonable to assure therefore that the Reporters usual weighted bias is going to improve to Sterlings favour moreso than in the past.

OTHER DIRECTORSHIPS ETC.

Evening Newspapers, Advertising Bureau ltd.

Director Star News Shops. Evening Newspapers Advertising Bureau. Independent Radio Hallam (Sheffield).

No other Directorships.

Exec Director of Thomson Regional Newspapers East Yorkshire printers. Goole Times Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd. The Reporter Ltd. Doncaster Newspapers. Tridernt TV. Yorkshire TV. INCO FIEG Deutch. Trustee of Evening Newspapers Adcertising Bureau. Council of Noth Eastern Postal Board. Trustt of Yorks & Lincs Trustee Savings Bank. was High Sherrif of Yorks 1963.

No other Directorships.

Yorkshire Post. B. Parkinson & co. Ltd.(Wool Import Imports) Bateman & Murg atroyd woolcombers Mutual Assoc. National Westminster Bank Eastern Region. Guardian Royal Exchange Co. Bradford Flower Fund Homes Ltd.

No other Directorships.

Midland Bank Trust Co. Central American Invests. Montagu Trust. North American General Consolidated General Consolidated Investment trust.

Rothesay Trust Ltd.

No other Directorships.

Bradford Power Systems Ltd. U.S. Metallic Packing Co. Ltd. Greenwood & Bately Ltd.

Sheffield Newspapers Ltd. Yorkshire Post

RTZ is notorious for its bulldozer tactics in getting what it wants, the Reporter has done very little to illustrate Sterlings lack of concern for many of Tamesides residents. It is guaranteed to do even less in the future. United Newspapers have been very generous in the past, in 1978 they donated £28. 000 to various printing organisation, it isn't known whether thrse organisations were responsible for printing the last Tory party manifesto or not. Director

TORY TIES

E.G.Schofield was Director of publicity at Conservative party Head Quarters in 1955 to 57 and is now a member of the ill-reputed Nation Liberal Club. United Newspapers gave £4,750 to the Yorkshire Conservative Association in 1978. Nuff Said?

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TAKES SIX TO QUA

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LONGDENDALE HOUSING SOCIETY FLATS AT CASTLE HILL CLOSE STALYBRIDGE

FESTIVAL

One of the tenants at Castle HillClose is Glyn Oakley. He works for Tameside Council in the Recreation Dept. as an Entertainments officer. He was heavily involved with the Stalybridge Festival arrangements around 1975/6 along with Norman Heys. It was at this time that there were problems with the Festival's accounts to do with unpaid printing bills and large amounts of beer goind missing.

Martin West, currently the full time agent for the Hyde and Stalybridge constituency Conservative party, was organising the festival with Norman and Glyn. Coincidentally, Martin has been associated with Philip Dawson through business as well as politics, used to work in a bank and stood at a recent Greater Manchester County Council by-election for a seat which covered Longendale.

CONSERVATIVE

This publicly funded body very well connected to mbers of the local Conservative party, whose leaders are inflicting large cuts on the Housing Corporation, the body which is loaning them - to date- a cool £677,000 as well as paying certain of their running costs and overheads.
For exanple, Geoffrey Eckersall, the secretary, was once employed as an accountant by Joseph Sykes.
Sykes was a leading Tory of his time, and died leaving £¼ million. Eckersall has also worked for Dawson, who is Chairman of the Constituency Tories. Geoff's office is 17 Clarence Arcade, just down the way from No.4, where Dawson has his Ashton base. No doubt, Eckersall's Intelligence Corpos experience assists in getting the best use of the Society's funds.

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HANDY OFFIC

CLARENCE A

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LONGENDALE HOUSING SOCIETY LTD. HAS PURCHASED LAND AND BUILT 50 FLATS FOR RENT USING £677,000 BORROWED FROM A QUANGO, (QUASI AUTONOMOUS NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION), THE HOUSING CORPORATION.

IN OCTOBER 1979 THEY RECEIVED FULL PLANNING PERMISSION TO BUILD 38 MORE FLATS IN GODLEY, HYDE. THEY ARE ALREADY MORTGAGED TO THE HILT, SO MORE LOANS WILL HAVE TO BE ACQUIRED IN ORDER TO PROCEED.

IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, EYE DECIDED TO FIND OUT WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THIS LARGE PUBLICLY FUNDED BUT PRIVATELY CONTROLLED INVESTMENT. IT TURNS OUT TO BE THE VERY PEOPLE WHO WISH TO SEE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE CUT BACK.

THE SIX

The Committee of Management consists of six men:
Chairman: Norman Heys
Secretary: Geoffrey Eckersall
Jack Lilley
Brian Eyre
William Pearce
Norman Lowe

Their connection with Longendale is not obvious: only two of them live there (Eckersall and Lowe). It is perhaps because Philip Dawson, who lives at Thornecliffe Hall in Hollingworth, has let the society use his Estate Agents office in Stalybridge as their official address. Heys and Lilley live in Stalybridge, Eyre in Broadbottom and Pearce in Ashton.

BANKERS

Brian Eyre is currently Manager of the National Westminster Bank on Melbourne St. in Stalybridge. Coincidentally, Norman Heys used to be Manager there too. It is not known who their Housing Society banks with.

COUNCILLORS

At the time the Society was granted planning permission for its 50 flats on Castle Hall Close (behind Stalybridge Labour Club), both Lilley and Heys sat on the Borough of Stalybridge Council. Neither were on town planning committee, but both were on General Purposes Committee and Finance Committee. In addition, Heys was Chairman of Housing Committee. The plans were passed on Sept. 1973.

Nearly seven years later, we understand petrol pump attendant and Church of England Lay Preacher Jack Lilley is again standing for council for Stalybridge ward. He has already been on Tameside council before, when he won a seat in Longendale in 1975 by a breathtaking 17 votes. It was in March 1976 that the Godley flats plans first passed through council and were conditionally approved.

In addition, Norman Lowe has tried to get on Council but he failed to get a Longendale seat. Philip Dawson, who acts as Agent-rent collector - for the society through his Stalybridge office, has also been a councillor in the past. Finally, the land purchased for their proposed flats in Godley belonged previously to ex-Hyde councillor Hibbert.

BUILDERS

Roland Bardsley, who like his friend Philip Dawson is involved in local Tory party politics, built the society flats in Stalybridge. According to the Society's accounts, they have properties worth over £½million. Most of this is accounted for by the Castle Hill Close flats.

LONGDENDALE HOUSING SOCIETY FLAT

FESTIVAL

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X TO QUANGO

S AT CASTLE HILL CLOSE STALYBRIDGE

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This publicly funded body is very well connected to members of the local Conservative party, whose leaders are inflicting large cuts on the Housing Corporation, the body which is loaning them - to date- a cool £677,000 as well as paying certain of their running costs and overheads.
For exanple, Geoffrey Eckersall, the secretary, was once employed as an accountant by Joseph Sykes.
Sykes was a leading Tory of his time, and died leaving £¼ million. Eckersall has also worked for Dawson, who is Chairman of the Constituency Tories. Geoff's office is 17 Clarence Arcade, just down the way from No.4, where Dawson has his Ashton base. No doubt, Eckersall's Intelligence Corpos experience assists in getting the best use of the Society's funds.

WOODLANDS

When Hibbert lived in Woodlands - site of 38 proposed new flats in Hyde - he was the first to complain about new flats in Hyde - he was the first to complain about the building of new homes overlooking where he lived. But times changed and he sold to the Housing Society. They have knocked down Woodlands, and propose knocking down 51 trees as well to make way for their 4 storey block of flats.

This has caused a lot of local residents to protest. Despite public meetings, Planning Committee visits, and a complaint to the Ombudsman, their protests soon lost the ear of Councillors when it was announced that cancelling the Planning Permission could cost as much as £111,000 in compensation. The residents would have preferred a 2-storey block on the site of the old building.

BRADBRIDGE PROPERTY CO. LTD.
INCORPORATING ROECROSS ESTATES LTD.
STALEY PROPERTIES INVESTMENT LTD.
LONGDENDALE HOUSING SOCIETY LTD.

HANDY OFFICES IN CLARENCE ARCADE

FOR THE GOOD OF THEIR SOULS

Housing Societies and Associations come under scrutiny by Central Govt. bureaucracy. They are run in such a way that no one directly involved profits financially. Thereis no suggestion here that Longendale Housing Soc. is run incorrectly. In fact, it is quite clear from the published accounts that the Committee of Management received no expenses for their labours whatsoever. It is equally clear that all six men are pillars of Tameside's local Establishment. You didn't think the Government would lend so much cash to anyone, did you?

☆☆

conference on democracy

by

DAVE HALLSWORTH

HON. SEC. OF TAMESIDE TRADES UNION COUNCIL

demand

Many people in Tameside must have wondered what all the excitement was about over the proposed Trades Council one-day Conference on Ireland that should have taken place on March 1st. Surely there were few that expected thousands to flock into Tameside returning after the Conference to set up a campaign that would set Britain alight with the demand that Ireland should be free.

lesson

Maybe it could be understood as a lesson to us all in democracy. We have been shown by the action of Tameside police in recent months that we don't have the freedom to air our opinions in public unless one is prepared to pay outrageous fines and penalties. It has now been pointed out to us that one cannot with impunity air ones opinions indoors either, in spite, or in this case also because of, the guardians of local democracy.

sympathies

Where indeed are that crop of democrats who are for ever shouting out their readiness however much they detest, the right of the National Front to air their opinions. Or maybe one has to be of an ultra right wing organisation to get the sympathies of these types of democrat?

lies

A surprise to many was the role of the media in the denial of free speech. Maybe they also mean freedom of speech for them and theirs ? Let me take this opportunity of nailing a few lies for a start. The Irish Republican Socialist Party has nothing whatever and never did have anything to do with the Irish National Liberation Army, who not a few think is a name made up by the Special Branch. The IRSP are at present indeed complaining to the Press Council and the National Union of Journalists over the lies and slander about them that appeared in the Daily Mail, Morning Star and of course our very own Manchester Evening News.

attack

Our conference leaflet, which everyone took care only to quote the heading completely out of context, spelt it out quite clearly that the aim of the conference was to attempt to bring home to the trade unionists and working people of Tameside and Greater Manchester just what the British Army was up to in Ireland, and what the British Police and Special Branch are up to in Britain, with particular reference to Liverpool. The lies started by the National Front were immediately taken up by the Daily Mail and Manchester Evening News. The surprise to us was that Frank Cropper, a delegate to the Trades Council from ASTMS should repeat them in the form of a couple of articles to his Party's paper the Morning Star, and that these in their turn should be clipped out and sent to the TUC by the secretary of the Manchester Trades Council, his fellow party member, Francis Dean, and that these should form the basis of the TUC attack on us.

dirty

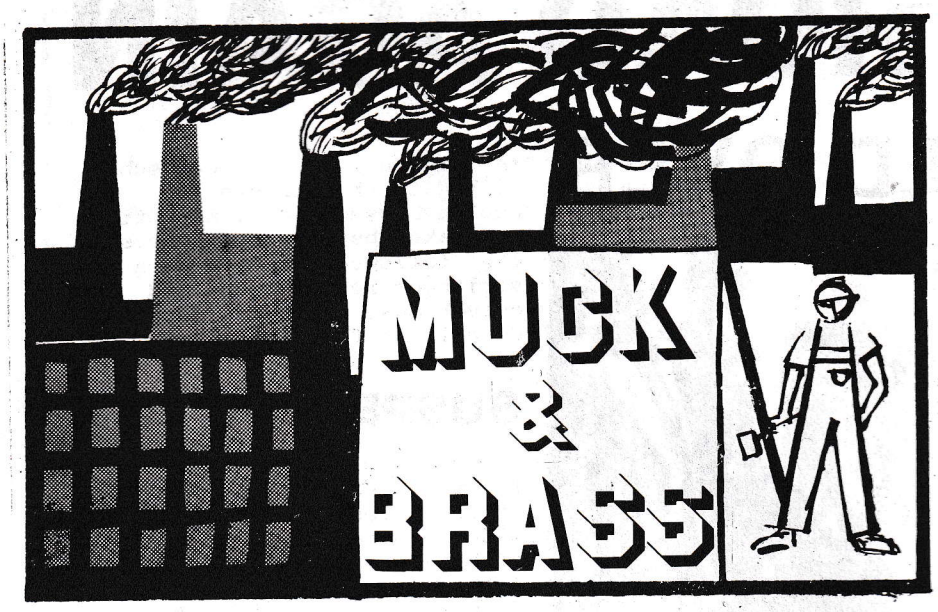
It became apparent to all of us that a whole spectrum of people and of organisations were determined that we would not be allowed to have a conference on Ireland, and that they were prepared to go to any dirty lengths to stop us.

smear

Many of us can remember the early days of the American Movement against the war in Vietnam. How all the dirty tricks under the sun were played on the critics of the war by the media, the Govt., the FBI and the CIA. Yet the trickle became a flood and the war had to end. We can even remember recent events like the press and media smear campaign against Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe/Rhodesia, and how this had to about-face when it became apparent to everyone that it was the Bishop doing the intimidating and it was Mugabe who had the support of the people.

no regrets

Certainly we of Tameside Trades Union Council have nothing to regret, our hands are clean, we are determined that come what may we shall convene a conference on Ireland very shortly. We feel that the TUC, N.W. TUC, Tameside Labour Group and the AUEW District Committee, disgraced the name of trade unionism by their complete lack of democratic practice to go with their preaching.



MADHOUSE ECONOMICS

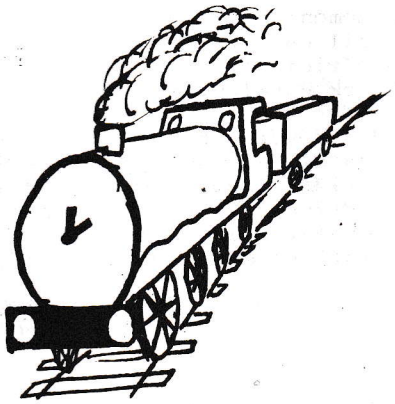
Rumours that 18 drivers and 18 guards jobs are under threat at Guide Bridge Station are not correct, as the NUR have now received firm assurances from British Rail Divisional Management. The problem arose when it was discovered that several coal train movements across the Pennines were missing from proposed time tables.

coal

Apparently, due to a directive from Thatcher's chop-happy Govt., the Central Electricity Generating Board has started to try and cut costs by importing cheap coal from Australia and America for its power stations. This has led to less coal coming over from the Yorkshire coalfields. Speaking on behalf of Barnsey area NUM, Arthur Scargill has described this move as 'the economics of the madhouse' arguing that putting miners and railway workers on the dole is hardly likely to cut public expenditure.

tunnel

Meanwhile, along the tracks which pass through Guide-Bridge questions are being asked as to whether or not the CEGB are giving British Rail another convenient reason for running down the Woodhead Tunnel line even further. As there are no time tabled passenger services on this line through to Sheffield, it would be one of the easiest cross-Pennine routes to close, as BR would not have to get Ministerial permission first. Other reasons for the threatened closure are now emerging, however; have BR received an offer to buy the tunnel, worth at least £150 million, from a large mining interest ?



LEX-UP

If you're ever in the position of arguing with a car dealer about theprice of a car (new or used) stick to your guns.
Lex Service, who have two car showrooms in Tameside - one in Hyde the other in Ashton, have just made £22.8 million pre-tax profit on sales throughout the country of nearly £500 mill. Dividends to their shareholders have gone up by 55½% in one year - sure beats inflation!

VICTORY FEAST

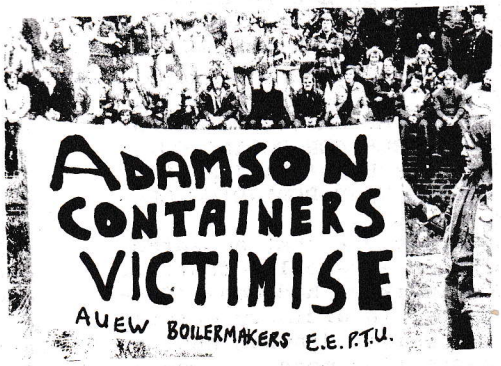
On Friday 21st. March a highly enjoyable social evening was held at St. Pauls social club, Guide Bridge. Organised by the Adamsons shop stewards. The event attended by approximately 150 invited guests was by way of a thank you to all the many people who had helped them in their recent struggle.

presentation

The entertainments included a bar, disco dancing and a buffet supper. Presentations on behalf of the Adamsons membership were made to several people who had especially assisted them in their strike. They included Bernard Regan Stockport Dist. Sec. A.U.E.W his secretary Ms. Richardson John Tocker Divisional organiser A.U.E.W. David Hewitt of the Boiler makers society and several of the Adamsons mens wives who did such a wonderful job in supporting the lads. The new Adamsons joint shop stewards committe banner

banner

was on display and it may well become a familiar sight in the coming months as protests against the measures of the Tory government gain momentum.



THE OLD BANNER

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

VAN HANDED OVER

"'Community Involvement' is the motto a group of local professional and businessmen have chosen for their voluntary activities throughout Tameside in order to help the deprived.
The project - the first of its kind in Greater Manchester - aims to provide accommodation for the homeless of any age, those just out of prison, or out of hospital, battered wives, and single parent families.
The group have been given money from the GMC Lottery and this has enabled them to buy a much needed van.
The van will be used to ferry materials, equipment and furniture to their properties licensed from Tameside council.
And, on Monday, members of the management board of the Tameside Community Involvement Council came to County Hall in Manchester to be presented officially by the GMC Chairman, County Cllr. Dr. Patrick Buckley, with the van.
Our picture shows at the small handing-over ceremony from left to right: trustee Mr. Michael Sainsbury, Mr. John Galvin, Mr. Charles Jones, Tameside's Senior Probation Officer, Mr. Bill Thomas, the driver, Cllr. Dr. Buckley, Mr. William Hackwell, and County Cllr. Tony Eddowes, one of Tameside's representatives on the County Council. "

THE ADVERTISER. 16/2/80.

THE GMC LOTTERY HAVE GIVEN MONEY TO THE 'TAMESIDE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COUNCIL' (TCIC), BUT ONLY A YEAR AGO TAMESIDE EYE PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE EXPOSING INSTANCES OF GROSS MIS MANAGEMENT AND DUBIOUS PRACTICES BY TCIC.
CLEARLY THE GMC COUNCILLORS RESPONSIBLE FOR DOLING OUT OUR MONEY FOR 'CHARITABLE' PURPOSES NEED REMINDING OF THE FACTS.....
The article - that appeared in Eye 4 - revealed that....
*TCIC workmen had done 'foreigners' in ordinary working hours whilst drawing public job-creation money. One of the foreigners involved renovations one a house belonging to a close relative of TCIC trustee Charlie Jones

*Lead had a nasty habit of disappearing from properties licensed to TCIC by Tameside Council. Three TCIC employees were prosecuted for lead thefts. One of the thieves was the son of County Councillor Tony Eddowes, who was at that time the 'Director Designate' of TCIC

*TCIC owed the government job creation scheme over £20,000 due to mismanagement of funds allocated to them. Other irregularities included TCIC treasurer Norman Higson paying himself an honorarium three years in advance.

*A file on TCIC had been submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions, no action was taken but the controversy that followed resulted in a series of resignations and defections, including County Councillor Tony Eddowes.

SUSPENDED

The rumours, and the EYE article, resulted in Tameside suspending its practice of licensing houses to TCIC. Later, a longstanding dispute between TCIC and Tameside Battered Wives project was resolved by Tameside in favour of the break away group. The Wives project gaining control of disputed funds.

RENTS

Until recently, TCIC looked like a dying organisation with a permanently sullied reputation. Its remaining full-time employee Bill Thomas appeared to spend his time collecting rents from Tameside's short-life properties. These rents payed his salary but not much else. As a result, the condition of these properties deteriorated rapidly.
In January this year a

CONCERN

Councillor on Tameside's Housing Committee expressed 'concern' about the state of these properties. It was agreed to arrange a meeting with TCIC trustees. This meeting has not yet taken place, and the properties continue to deteriorate.
According to reliable Tameside sources a number of councillors want to take the licensed properties away from TCIC. Housing Chairman Peter Bailey is resisting this idea. If Tameside re-assume responsibility for the TCIC houses, nearly all the tenants would then have to be rehoused, putting more pressure on the areas already overstrained housing resources.
Meanwhile, TCIC have been working hard to restore their reputation and their finances.

continued →

One Sunday in March bus loads of Labour councillors and party members could be spotted piling out on to the tarmac of Stalybridge Labour Clubs car park. They had arrived for a major policy conference. The snag was that someone had forgotten to book the club, and this left the conference - if not the policy- in tatters.

fingers

Recently, during a discussion about electronic calculators for school pupils, (basically if you are at school and cannot afford one- tough!) One Labour Councillor was overheard to remark: 'When I was at school we used to count on our fingers.

mc enaney

As predicted in our last issue, Patrick McEnaney will not have the backing of the Labour party when he stands for re-election to the council in May. He has resigned from the party, after 42 years membership (22 of which he was a councillor) and will now be standing as an independent candidate. McEnaney is 'sad' that he was not allowed to stand again for Labour in Ashton No.2 ward. He said he was told by the party that he had a 'record of bad attendances' at council meetings - yet he reckons his attendance at full council was 100%. In his own words:
' I'm a middle of the road man..I'm not going to be licked by a band of left youngsters, I'd rather lose to the voice of the people It could be argued that his stand on the showing of 'The Bitch' was only fractionally to the left of Attilla the Hun,.it all depends on which road you're in the middle of.

It seems certain that the Labour candidate Mrs. Lena Eason, whose husband Jimmy Eason is standing against the opposition leader Fearn, will get in. Asked if he would be out campaigning McEnaney replied. 'Oh, we havn't canvassed since TV came in, in our ward. You can do more harm than good knocking on a door on a Wednesday night and interrupting Coronation Street.'

health

Last year, the twelve councillors appointed to Tameside Community Health Council made up more than one third of its membership. Yet eight of these representatives of the people couldn't make it to over half of the CHC's meetings and committees.
This obviously makes the job of Kathleen Grundy the Chairman (sic) much easier. Obviously ?
Well, the latest annual report of the CHC is quite the dullest ever written, guaranteed to send to sleep the Borough's most committed insomniacs.

HOUSING ASSOCIATION

An application to form a TCIC Housing Association has recently been accepted by the Housing Corporation. The trustees now want the 40 Tameside properties to be turned over to their Housing Association.
TCIC's move to form a Housing Association comes at an opportune moment. At present the Govt's policy is to give priority to Housing Assoc's when it comes to allocating scarce resources.
If the trustees play their cards right(and the have already sought the co-operation of existing local Housing Assocs) they could be in line for considerable sums of money.

SAME FACES

But, should TCIC get any more money from community funds?
Nearly all the TCIC representatives pictured in the 'Advertiser' story reproduced above were in positions of responsibility during the 'bad days'. Their principle contact on the GMC County Councillor Eddowes is that very same 'Director Designate' who resigned so precipitately last year.
Is there any evidence that these men are any better qualified to avoid the kind of mismanagement and irregularities that occured in the past?

Do officials in the Housing Corporation know about TCIC's past record?

Do Tameside officers who are now beginning to look more kindly on TCIC's approaches remember the facts?

The answer to all these questions is probably NO. So, copies of this article and our previous one on TCIC will be finding their way to the in-trays of everyone concerned.

○○○

POEMS,PINTS AND SONG.

AT THE ORGAN INN, MARKET ST. HOLLINGWORTH, TAMESIDE.

This venue is relatively little known, despite having been around for just over a year.
Original and written poems are read by members of the very informal audience and any-one who writes or recites is welcome to pop-along. Singers and other muscicians are also welcome to practice their art.
Roy, The Landlord and June, are famous for their exellent suppers which are provided at a very reasonable price and you've never heard Dylan Thomas until You've listened to Cynlias(Ken) Griffiths. Oh, not forgetting Pat Rimmer's home spun poetry which is always in demand.
There are plans afoot to produce a book under the title of the Valley Poets.

Admission to the Poems and Pints and Song is FREE. FREE FREE. BUT GET THERE EARLY as it's only a small room and soon fills up .

NEXT POEMS AND PINTS IS...
SUNDAY 20th APRIL @ 8.00pm.
You Wont Regret it

a review

The first performance of the show was on Thurs. 31st. January at 8.00pm at Millbrook Community Centre. There was an excellent atmosphere created by the audience of ninety parents, children and other local residents. The evening turned out to be everything and more than everyone had expected.

Basically, the review is concerned with looking at the ways in which local people, industry and leisure facilities would be affected if there were a tip on Brushes Valley. This is done through words and songs which translate their feelings of frustration and powerlessness into a number of related sketches.

The idea of producing the show had been sparked off by the spontaneous outcry of Millbrook people in response to Greater Manchester Council's proposal to establish a tip on Brushes Valley. The show was the idea of Millbrook youngsters and at this point North West Spanner Theatre Group were invited to help with the production.

The opening scene was set in the local factory (Dukinfield Bleaching Co.) and focused peoples attention on the fact that there may be many redundancies if the tip arrives, as it would verge on the factories water supply and therefore pollute the water, ruining the bleaching process.

The second scene was 'The Tip' and began with a song written by Linda Deegan. Then came the 'Two Tramps' sketch which was probably the funniest routine of the show. Played by Tony Stanley and Steven Halliwell, the two tramps give us a new perspective on the debate for and against the proposed tip.

Following the tramps came the Rats and the 'Ratchatcher' In song and verse Paul Twigg Linda Deegan, Maxine Glyn and Mick Garside remind us of the pests and diseases that would be brought with the tip. As the Ratchatcher informed us, 'these aren't only Millbrook rats, there's some from Ashton and Oldham, in fact from all over Gtr. Manchester.

After the rats came the Old Man, played by Tony Stanley, supported by Pauline Hallaway. This was a moving poem written by Linda Deegan expressing the feelings of one old man now having to live with the 'dirt and filth' whilst remembering 'what a beautiful place this used to be.'

Scene four was 'The Pub'. This was further exploration of local peoples feelings of frustration at not knowing how to stop the devastation which a tip would undoubtedly bring. The end of the scene saw the locals in their local, banding together and deciding to visit their councillor.

The fifth scene was in the council office and again showed the feelings of hopelessness and lack of confidence felt by the youngsters in their elected representatives. These feelings are summed up with the words 'that is how much the council care, as long as they get your rent and rates, and of course, your vote.'

The final scene was, aptly, in the community centre, and included some excellent poems summing up and reaffirming the main theme of the play. The finale was a stirring song written to the tune of Daisy, Daisy, and gave an opp ortunity for some audience participation, with everyone joining in the last chorus. The evening ended with a few words from Mr. Sidney Snape, Chairman of Millbrook Residents, in which he congratulated the Youth Club for its magnificent performance and hoped that it would have the desired impact on the authorities.

Informally, after the performance, many people including other youth and community workers expressed their congratulations to the group and invited them to other areas of Tameside to put on the play.

The second performance of the review was on Friday 15th March at Dukinfield Bleaching Co.
This was performed for the workers and management and received plenty of publicity from the Manchester Evening News, the Advertiser. Tameside Eye, Radio Manchester and Piccadilly Radio.

There is now an exhibition of photos, poetry and songs from the show on display at Millbrook Library,
There will be further performances, the first on Weds. 30th April at Stalybridge Cricket Club at 8 pm and then on Sunday May 11th at Millbrook Community Centre at 8 pm.

THE PUB SCENE.

A SECTION OF THE AUDIENCE

THE HOLLINGWORTH humm !!

Sometime prior to Xmas last year local environmentalists in Hollingworth began to get concerned about the apparent indiscriminate tipping of slurry. Slurry, for the less agriculturally minded of Eye readers, is the euphemism for the more widely accepted term of reference for Cow Shit. This waste is normally redistributed on the land in the form of muck spreading. However this tradition seems to have been given the elbow by one farmer at least.

pollutants

The concern amongst some locals is that due to the nature of the geography of the land the slurry has been tipped on, poisonous bacteria could be washed down into a tributary of the River Etherow during the Longdendale Monsoon season which we are currently in the middle of now. At this stage in the Etherow's course it is reasonably clean, having the status of a grade A/B river. Naturally it is important that it should remain so.

whodunnit ?

Until recently the situation was further frustrated by the identity of the culprit remaining a mystery. Tyre tracks couldn't be traced to any particular farm. There are three in the immediate vicinity, Widdowscroft, Meadowbank, and Landslow Green Farm. Meadowbank Farm has a thriving Dairy herd and are known to spread muck on their own land. Widdowscroft farm is about the same distance away from the offending muck pile as Meadowbank and so cannot be ruled out as being responsible. Landslow Green farm again could be guilty, but it would be a cheeky farmer indeed who tipped his shit right outside his neighbour's front gate. The neighbour in this case resides at Widdowscroft farm. However in English Law, the guilty must be presumed innocent until proved otherwise.

temporary ?

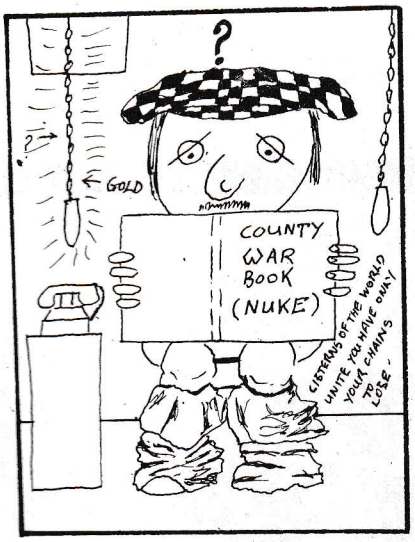
The second frustration is that the muck pile has been established right in the heart of the Green Belt. And to add insult to injury lies festering not more than a foot or two from a public footpath listed as being on the Swallow Wood Trail in the Tameside Recreation handbook, cost 30p.

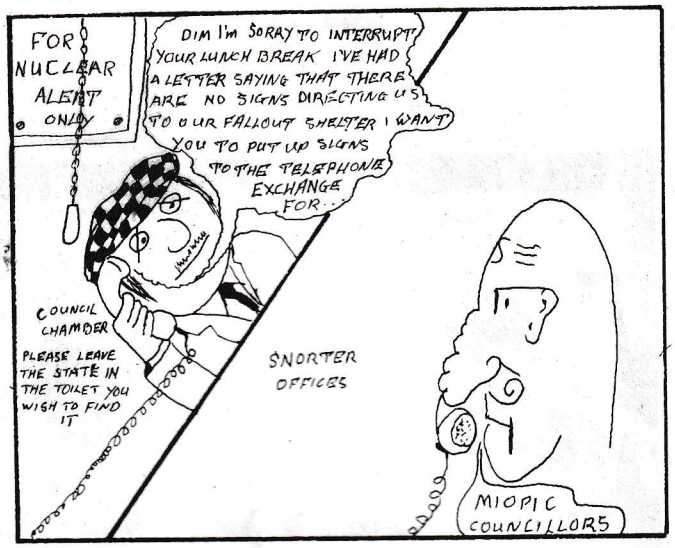
Photo showing slurry and ruined public footpath.

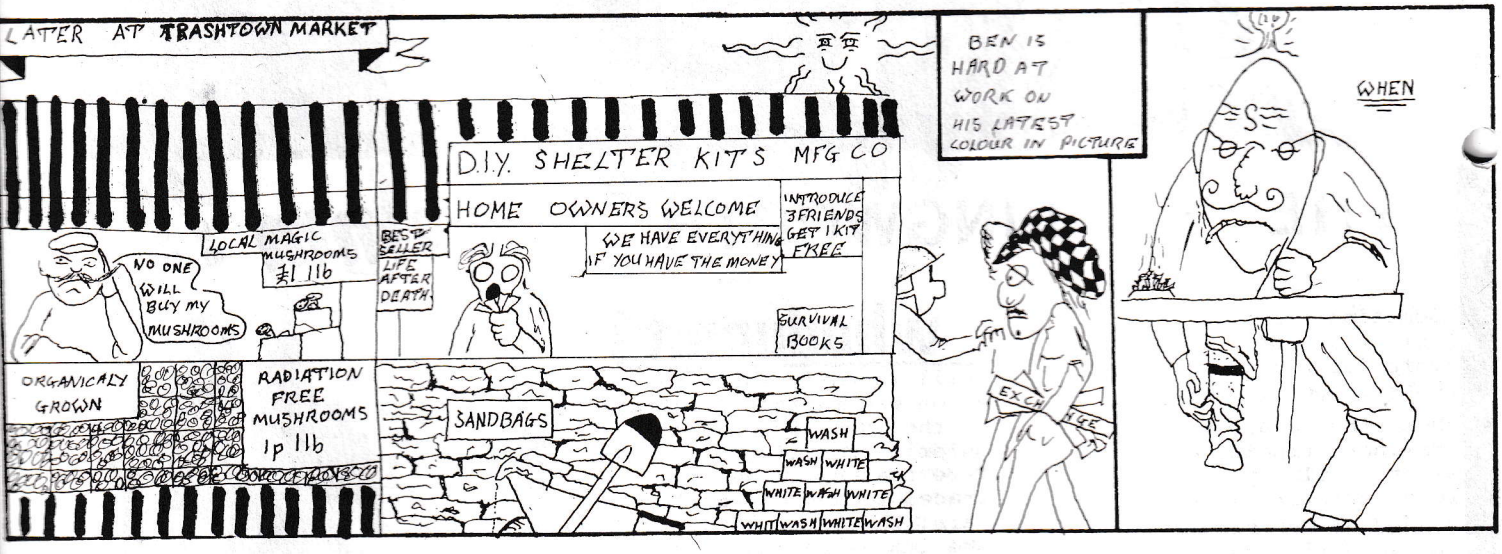
Tameside Environmental Health Dept were notified in February of the offence and have written to the farmer concerned who says that the tipping was only temporary, and that he will be moving it. The questions on peoples lips now is, When will it be moved ? and why wasn't it spread on the fields in the first place ?. The walking and rambling season is just around the corner and countless people will be getting their 30p's worth from the hikers handbook. Or perhaps after reading this, they wont.
P.S On a point of interest the approach road to the footpath is called..... COW LANE. Happy hiking.

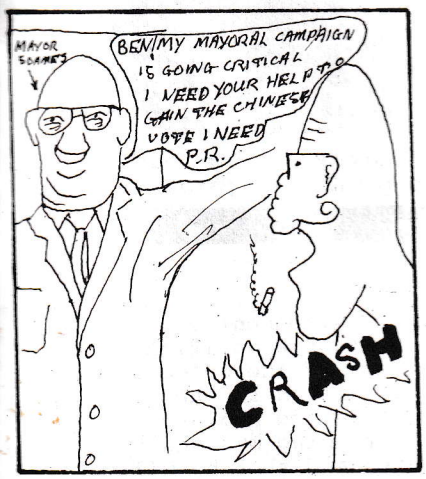
the secret life of Uncle Ben

FLUSHED WITH SUCCESS AT NEARLY BRINGING THE OLYMPICS TO LAMESIDE SUPER BENS CREDIBILITY SEEMS TO BE GROWING AND SO WE CONTINUE WITH COUNCILLOR DIM DOING A BIT OF RESEARCH

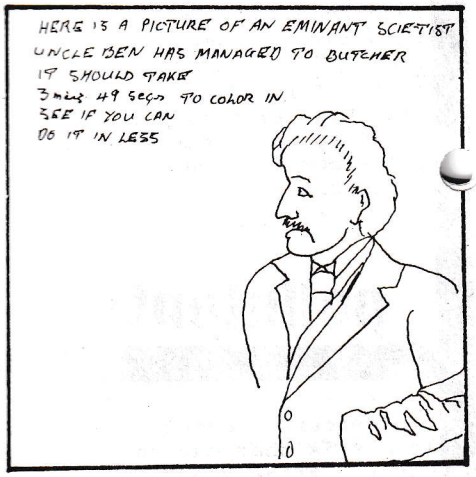


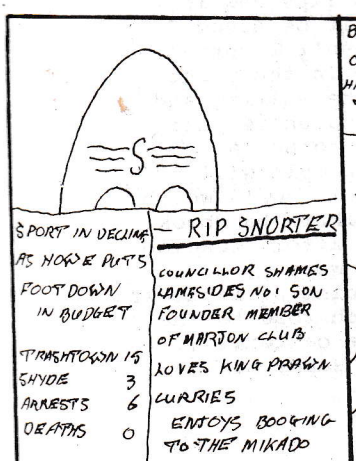
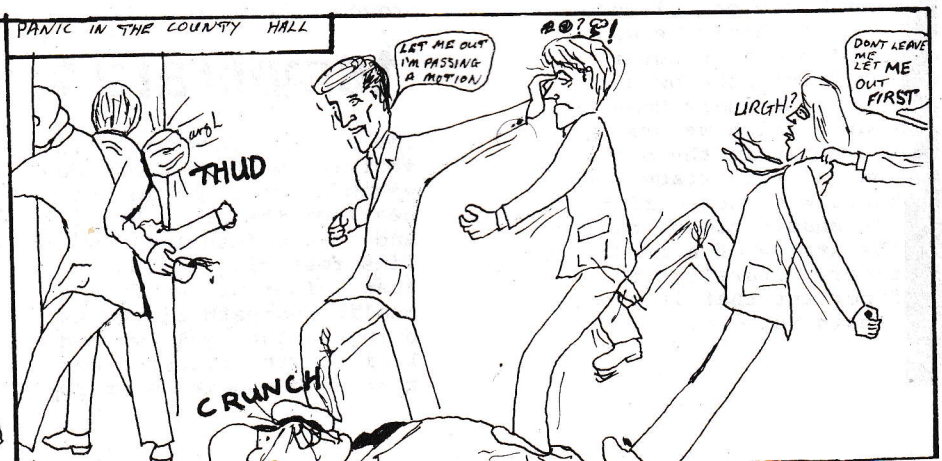

FOR NUCLEAR ALERT ONLY
DIM I'm SORAY TO INTERRUPT YOUR LUNCH BREAK I'VE HAD A LETTER SAYING THAT THERE ARE NO SIGNS DIRECTING US TO OUR FALLOUT SHELTER I WANT YOU TO PUT UP SIGNS TO THE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE FOR...
COUNCIL CHAMBER
PLEASE LEAVE THE STATE IN THE TOILET YOU WISH TO FIND IT
SNORTER OFFICES
MIOPIC COUNCILLORS


LATER AT TRASHTOWN MARKET
D.I.Y. SHELTER KIT'S MFG CO
HOME OWNERS WELCOME
WE HAVE EVERYTHING IF YOU HAVE THE MONEY
INTRODUCE 3 FRIENDS GET 1 KIT FREE
LOCAL MAGIC MUSHROOMS £1 11b
NO ONE WILL BUY MY MUSHROOMS
BEST SELLER LIFE AFTER DEATH
SURVIVAL BOOKS
ORGANICALY GROWN
RADIATION FREE MUSHROOMS 1p 11b
SANDBAGS
WASH
WHITE
BEN IS HARD AT WORK ON HIS LATEST COLOUR IN PICTURE
WHEN



DONT WORRY IM THE MAN WHO SOLVED OUR TRADES COUNCILL PROBLEM WITH OUR LEAFLET
AND NEARLY BROUGHT THE OLYMPICS TO LAMESIDE


HERE IS A PICTURE OF AN EMINANT SCIETIST
UNCLE BEN HAS MANAGED TO BUTEMER
IT SHOULD TAKE
3 mins 49 secs TO COLOR IN
SEE IF YOU CAN
DO IT IN LESS



BENS DONE IT THIS TIME
ONCE THE CHINESE HAVE FINISHED WITH US THE RUSSIANS WILL HAVE US IN THE MINES
I'm GOING TO GET THE DROP ON ALL OF THEM
ADD RANGER
NO DIFFERENCE FROM RIP SNORT BUT IT'S FREE